## What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
- 2 configuring search indices on a first server, the
- 3 search indices being associated with corresponding
- 4 business components;
- 5 displaying the search indices to a first client, the
- 6 first client being connected to the first server via a
- 7 computer network and being configured to perform search
- 8 using data records stored on a local machine; and
- 9 downloading one or more particular search indices
- 10 from the first server onto the local machine in response
- 11 to the first client's request to download the one or more
- 12 particular search indices to be used for searching on the
- 13 local machine.
  - The method of claim 1 wherein each search index is
- 2 associated to a corresponding search category.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein displaying the list of
- 2 search indices includes:
- 3 displaying a list of search categories that are
- 4 associated to the search indices.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 further including:
- 2 providing the first client with a mechanism to
- 3 individually select one or more particular search indices
- 4 for download onto the local machine.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein downloading includes:

- 2 performing a database synchronization operation to
- 3 download index files containing search indices as
- 4 attachments onto the local machine.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 further including:
- 2 performing an uncompress operation to uncompress the
- 3 index files downloaded from the first server into a
- 4 specific directory on the local machine.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein each search index is
- 2 represented by a corresponding search index object which
- 3 includes an index identifier and a business component
- 4 identifier of a specific business component to which the
- 5 respective search index is associated.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein configuring the search
- 2 indices includes:
- 3 defining a search index object for each business
- 4 component that needs to be indexed by a search engine; and
- 5 associating the respective search index object to the
- 6 corresponding business component.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein search index related
- 2 information including index identifier and search engine
- 3 identifier are stored in a first table and search index
- 4 related file attachments are stored in a second table.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein downloading includes:
- 2 marking associated index attachment files to be
- 3 downloaded in response to the first client's request for a
- 4 database synchronization operation.
- 1 11. A system comprising:

- 2 logic to configure search indices on a first server,
- 3 the search indices being associated with corresponding
- 4 business components;
- 5 logic to display the search indices to a first
- 6 client, the first client being connected to the first
- 7 server via a computer network and being configured to
- 8 perform search using data records stored on a local
- 9 machine: and
- 10 logic to download one or more particular search
- 11 indices from the first server onto the local machine in
- 12 response to the first client's request to download the one
- 13 or more particular search indices to be used for searching
- 14 on the local machine.
- 1 12. The system of claim 11 wherein each search index is
- 2 associated to a corresponding search category.
- 1 13. The system of claim 12 wherein logic to display the
- 2 list of search indices includes:
- 3 logic to display a list of search categories that are
- 4 associated to the search indices.
- 1 14. The system of claim 11 further including:
- 2 logic to provide the first client with a mechanism to
- 3 individually select one or more particular search indices
- 4 for download onto the local machine
- 1 15. The system of claim 11 wherein logic to download
- 2 includes:

- 3 logic to perform a database synchronization operation
- 4 to download index files containing search indices as
- 5 attachments onto the local machine.
- 1 16. The system of claim 15 further including:
- 2 logic to perform an uncompress operation to
- 3 uncompress the index files downloaded from the first
- 4 server into a specific directory on the local machine.
- 1 17. The system of claim 11 wherein each search index is
- 2 represented by a corresponding search index object which
- 3 includes an index identifier and a business component
- 4 identifier of a specific business component to which the
- 5 respective search index is associated.
- 1 18. The system of claim 11 wherein logic to configure the
- 2 search indices includes:
- 3 logic to define a search index object for each
- 4 business component that needs to be indexed by a search
- 5 engine; and
- 6 logic to associate the respective search index object
- 7 to the corresponding business component.
- 1 19. The system of claim 11 wherein search index related
- 2 information including index identifier and search engine
- 3 identifier are stored in a first table and search index
- 4 related file attachments are stored in a second table.
- 1 20. The system of claim 9 wherein logic to download
- 2 includes:

- 3 logic to mark associated index attachment files to be
- 4 downloaded in response to the first client's request for a
- 5 database synchronization operation.
- 1 21. A machine-readable medium comprising instructions
- 2 which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to
- 3 perform operations including:
- 4 configuring search indices on a first server, the
- 5 search indices being associated with corresponding
- 6 business components;
- 7 displaying the search indices to a first client, the
- 8 first client being connected to the first server via a
- 9 computer network and being configured to perform search
- 10 using data records stored on a local machine; and
- 11 downloading one or more particular search indices
- 12 from the first server onto the local machine in response
- 13 to the first client's request to download the one or more
- 14 particular search indices to be used for searching on the
- 15 local machine.
- 1 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 wherein each
- 2 search index is associated to a corresponding search
- 3 category.
- 1 23. The machine-readable medium of claim 22 wherein
- 2 displaying the list of search indices includes:
- 3 displaying a list of search categories that are
- 4 associated to the search indices.
- 1 24. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 further
- 2 including:

- 3 providing the first client with a mechanism to
- 4 individually select one or more particular search indices
- 5 for download onto the local machine.
- 1 25. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 wherein
- 2 downloading includes:
- 3 performing a database synchronization operation to
- 4 download index files containing search indices as
- 5 attachments onto the local machine.
- 1 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 5 further
- 2 including:
- 3 performing an uncompress operation to uncompress the
- 4 index files downloaded from the first server into a
- 5 specific directory on the local machine.
- 1 27. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 wherein each
- 2 search index is represented by a corresponding search
- 3 index object which includes an index identifier and a
- 4 business component identifier of a specific business
- 5 component to which the respective search index is
- 6 associated.
- 1 28. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 wherein
- 2 configuring the search indices includes:
- 3 defining a search index object for each business
- 4 component that needs to be indexed by a search engine; and
- 5 associating the respective search index object to the
- 6 corresponding business component.
- 1 29. The machine-readable medium of claim 21 wherein
- 2 search index related information including index

- 3 identifier and search engine identifier are stored in a
- 4 first table and search index related file attachments are
- 5 stored in a second table.
- 1 30. The machine-readable medium of claim 29 wherein
- 2 downloading includes:
- 3 marking associated index attachment files to be
- 4 downloaded in response to the first client's request for a
- 5 database synchronization operation.